Grade 4 - Science

Lesson 5

Desert Living Organisms

Exercises

1. Choose the correct answer:

1. To reduce the time its feet are in contact with the hot ground, the jerboa has ..... back legs.

   A very short B long C flat D weak

2. Desert living organisms live in a harsh environment where ..... is scarce.

   A sand B heat C water D sunlight

3. An animal that can survive by depending only on the water found in its food may live in the ..... .

   A river B forest C sea D desert

2. Put (✓) or (✗):

1. Desert animals hide in cool burrows underground during the night. ☐
2. The fennec fox has two small ears that help cool its body quickly. ☐
3. The jerboa jumps like a kangaroo to move quickly on hot sand. ☐

3. Complete the following sentences:

1. Living organisms in the desert have special ..... and clever ..... that help them adapt to the harsh environment.
2. The long back legs of the jerboa make it jump like a ..... to move quickly.
3. Some desert animals, such as ..... , drink large amounts of water at once and store it inside their bodies.

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4 Correct the underlined word(s):

1. Many desert animals hide during the <u>night</u> when the temperature rises. (.....)

2. The fennec fox has two <u>small</u> ears that help cool its body. (.....)

3. The jerboa depends on its <u>front legs</u> to move quickly on hot sand. (.....)

5 Write the scientific term:

1. A desert animal that has long back legs that enable it to jump like a kangaroo. (.....)

2. A desert animal that has two large ears that allow excess body heat to escape. (.....)

3. Cool burrows underground where desert animals hide during the day. (.....)

6 Find the odd word:

1. Thick fur on the soles of the feet – Large ears – Swimming skillfully – Hiding during the day (.....)

2. Camel – Jerboa – Fennec fox – Water birds (.....)

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7 Give reasons for the following:

1. The fennec fox has two large ears.

.....

.....

2. The jerboa can move and jump quickly.

.....

.....

3. Desert animals are not very active during the day.

.....

.....

8 What happens if...?

1. The fennec fox did not have thick fur on the soles of its feet.

.....

.....

2. The fennec fox had small ears.

.....

.....

3. An animal that lives in a cool forest is moved to a very hot desert.

.....

.....

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9 Mention the function or importance of:

1. The two large ears of the fennec fox.

.....

.....

2. The long back legs of the jerboa.

.....

.....

3. Cool burrows underground for desert animals.

.....

.....

10 Answer the following questions:

1. Explain how some desert animals can obtain water if they rarely drink it.

.....

.....

2. Compare the ear size of animals living in cool forests with that of the fennec fox living in the desert.

Animals living in cool forests: .....

.....

Fennec fox living in the desert: .....

.....

3. Mention one clever way of living used by desert animals to survive high temperatures.

.....

.....

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11 Look at the figure, then answer:

Figure 1 — Fennec Fox

1. What is the living organism shown in the figure?

.....

2. Mention a physical characteristic that helps this animal protect its feet from hot sand.

.....

.....

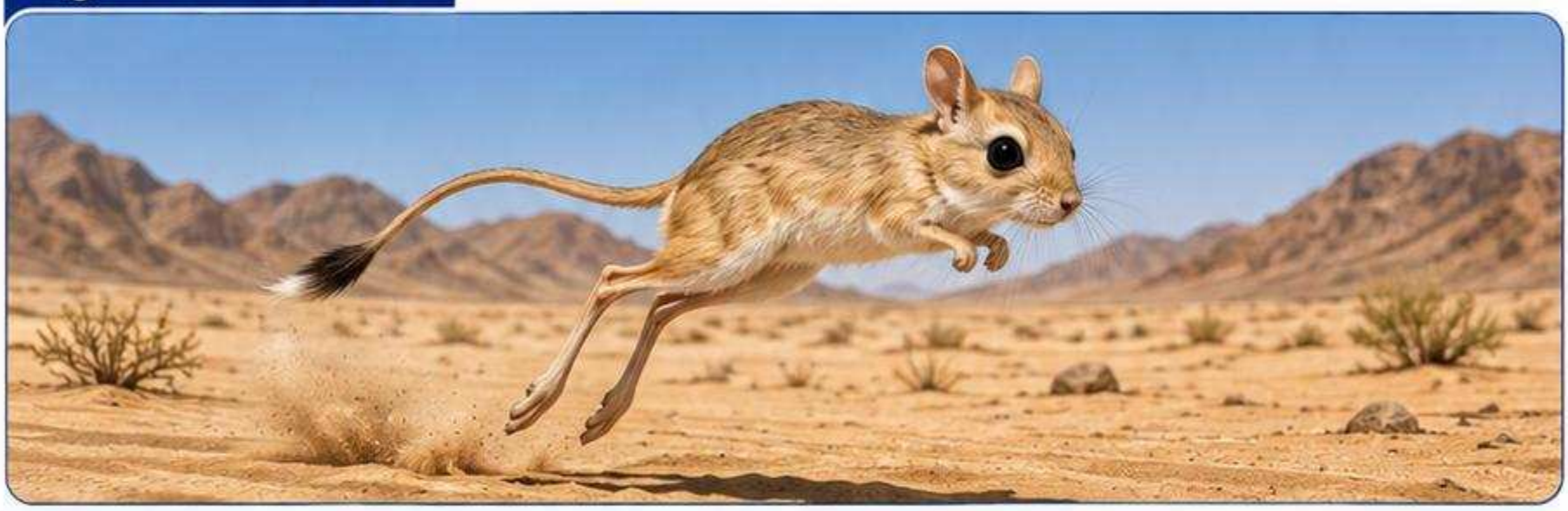
3. Where do desert animals hide during the day to escape the hot sun?

.....

.....

.....

Figure 2 — Jerboa



1. How does the animal shown in the figure move?

.....

2. What is the importance of this way of movement in the environment where it lives?

.....

.....

3. Explain how the camel adapts to water scarcity in the desert.

.....

.....

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Answer Key

1 Choose

1. B — long
2. C — water
3. D — desert

2 Put (✓) or (✗)

1. ✗ Desert animals hide in cool burrows underground **during the day.**
2. ✗ The fennec fox has two **large ears** that help cool its body.
3. ✓ The jerboa jumps like a kangaroo to move quickly on hot sand.

3 Complete

1. Living organisms in the desert have special **physical characteristics** and clever **ways of living** that help them adapt to the harsh environment.
2. The long back legs of the jerboa make it jump like a **kangaroo** to move quickly.
3. Some desert animals, such as **camels**, drink large amounts of water at once and store it inside their bodies.

4 Correct the underlined word(s)

1. night ➜ day
2. small ➜ large
3. front legs ➜ long back legs

5 Write the scientific term

1. Jerboa
2. Fennec fox
3. Cool burrows underground

6 Find the odd word

1. Swimming skillfully
2. Water birds

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7 Give Reasons

1 **The fennec fox has two large ears.**

Answer: To allow **excess body heat to escape** to the outside.

---

2 **The jerboa can move and jump quickly.**

Answer: Because it has **long back legs** that help it jump like a kangaroo and move quickly.

---

3 **Desert animals are not very active during the day.**

Answer: Because the temperature is **high during the day**, so they hide in **cool burrows underground**.

8 What happens if...?

1 **The fennec fox did not have thick fur on the soles of its feet.**

Answer: Its feet might **get burned** by the hot sand.

---

2 **The fennec fox had small ears.**

Answer: Less body heat would escape to the outside, so its body would **not cool effectively**.

---

3 **An animal that lives in a cool forest is moved to a very hot desert.**

Answer: It may **not be able to survive** because it is not adapted to the very hot desert environment.

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9 Mention the function or importance of:

1 **The two large ears of the fennec fox.**

Answer: They allow **excess body heat to escape** to the outside.

---

2 **The long back legs of the jerboa.**

Answer: They help it **jump like a kangaroo and move quickly**, reducing the time its feet are in contact with the hot ground.

---

3 **Cool burrows underground for desert animals.**

Answer: They provide **cool places to hide** during the day.

10 Answer the following questions:

1 **Explain how some desert animals can obtain water if they rarely drink it.**

Answer: They can survive by depending on **the water found in their food.**

---

2 **Compare the ear size of animals living in cool forests with that of the fennec fox living in the desert.**

Animals living in cool forests	Fennec fox living in the desert
Smaller ears	Larger ears

---

3 **Mention one clever way of living used by desert animals to survive high temperatures.**

Answer: They are **active at night** when the temperature decreases.

➜ **Also accepted:** They hide in **cool burrows underground** during the day.

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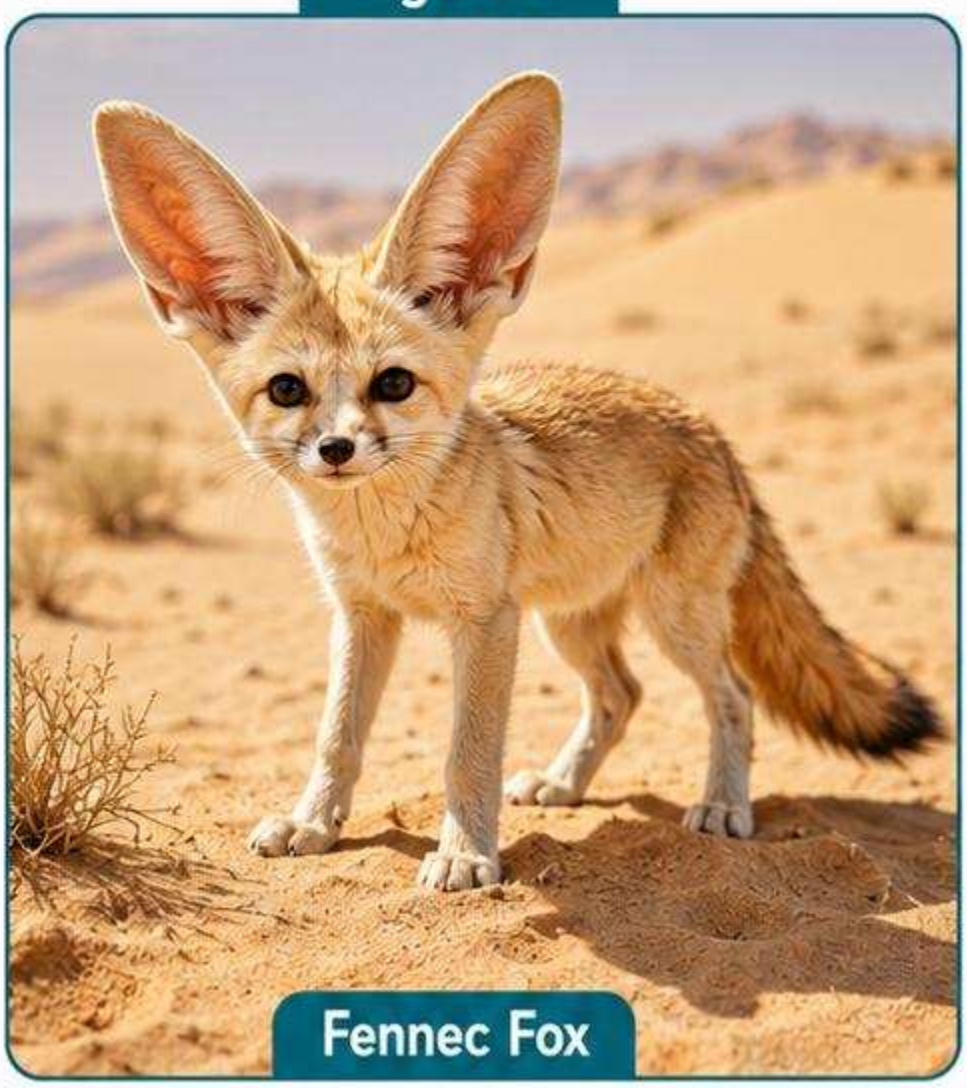
11 Look at the figure, then answer:

Figure 1



Fennec Fox

1 What is the living organism shown in the figure?

Answer:

Fennec fox

2 Mention a physical characteristic that helps this animal protect its feet from hot sand.

Answer:

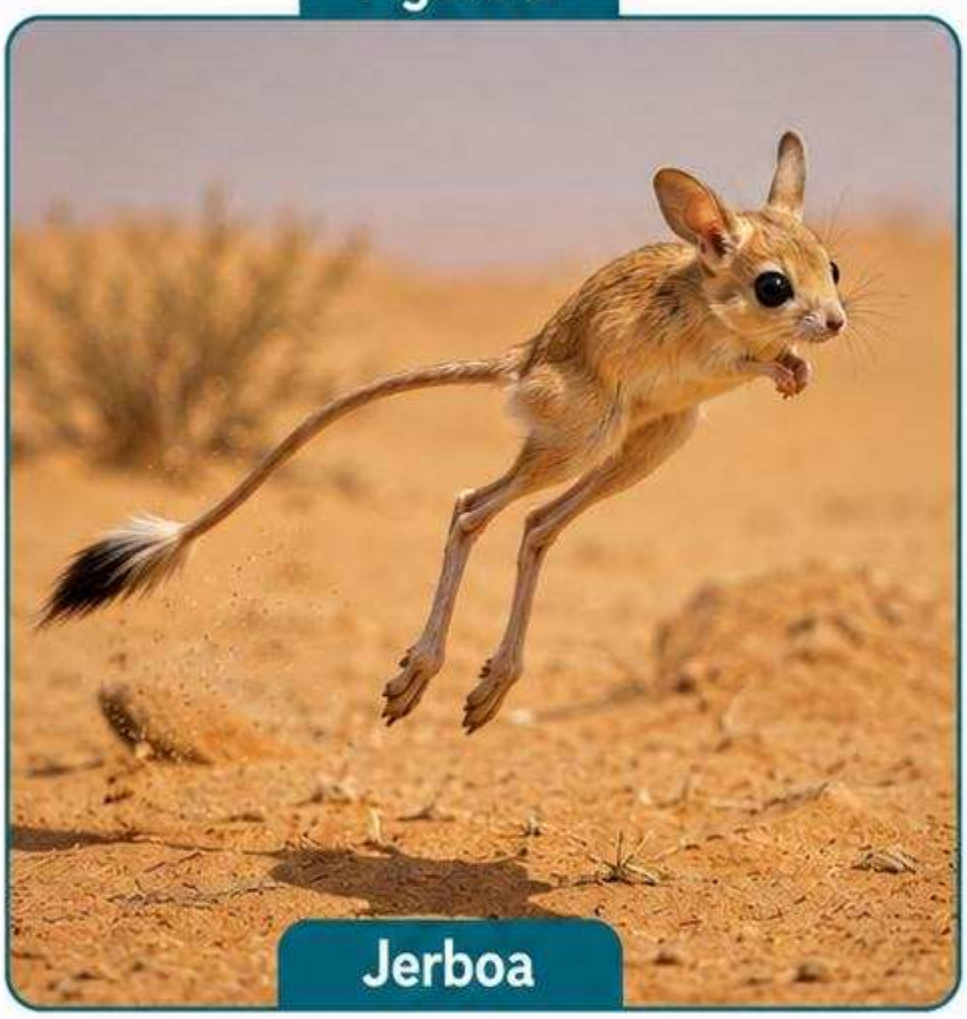
It has **thick fur** on the soles of its feet.

3 Where do desert animals hide during the day to escape the hot sun?

Answer:

In **cool burrows underground**.

Figure 2



Jerboa

1 How does the animal shown in the figure move?

Answer:

It **jumps like a kangaroo**.

2 What is the importance of this way of movement in the environment where it lives?

Answer:

It helps **reduce the time** its feet are in contact with the hot ground.

3 Explain how the camel adapts to water scarcity in the desert.

Answer:

It **drinks a large amount of water at once** and stores it inside its body.

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